

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10074,356
Filing Date	February 12, 2002
First Named Inventor	Brian N. Tufte
Art Unit	2875
Examiner Name	Ismael Negron
Attorney Docket Number	1076.1101105

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address  <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal Comments on Reasons for Allowance Return Postcard
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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm Name	Crompton Seager Tufte		
Signature			
Printed name	Brian N. Tufte		
Date	April 15, 2005	Reg. No.	38,638

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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Brian N. Tufte

Confirmation No.: 9075

Serial No. 10/074,356

Examiner: I. Negron

Filing Date: February 12, 2002

Group Art Unit 2875

For: ELONGATED ILLUMINATION DEVICE

Docket: 1076.1101105

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

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By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Lynn Thompson*  
Lynn Thompson

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanying the Notice of Allowability mailed on March 25, 2005 does not appear to be very concise or comprehensive, and thus require some clarification. First, the Examiner states:

Applicant teaches an illumination device having an elongated light source received in a cavity of an elongated member, such member being forcibly inserted into a slot of an elongated carrier. The elongated light source is inserted in the cavity through a slit formed in the elongated member. The slot and the member are adapted so that when the elongated member is in the slot, the carrier forces the slit in the elongated member into a closed, or substantially closed position. The elongated member having a material that is at least partially transparent, and a non-transparent material. The carrier is at least partially deformed to receive the elongated member.

Because many of the claims do not recite all of these features, Applicant believes that the Examiner was merely attempting to summarize the claim set in general, and not with reference to any claim or claims in particular.

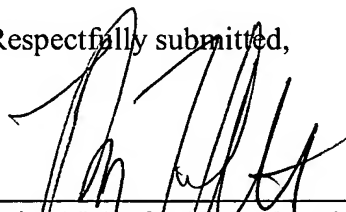
Application No. 10/074,356  
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance  
Confirmation No. 9075

In the following paragraph, the Examiner states:

However, applicant argued that the claimed invention's closed or substantially closed slot limitation was not functionally equivalent to the "operationally closed with a gap" slot structure suggested by the combined teachings of Burkitt, III et al. and Bell. The gap, the applicant argued, compromises the structural integrity/strength of the elongated member resulting in reduced protection of the elongated light source. Such arguments were considered meritorious and sufficient to overcome the rejections based on Burkitt, III et al. and Bell.

Applicant would like to point out that many of the claims do not include the "closed or substantially closed" language. In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that the Examiner did not intend to provide a complete analysis or listing of reasons of why each and every claim is allowable over the prior art. The Examiner did state that claims 1-3, 7-14, 16-24 and 26-50 are allowed over the prior art. Thus, the Examiner must have concluded that the claims as allowed are patentable over the prior art, and not necessarily for only those reasons summarized in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Applicant respectfully request clarification if the Examiner does not agree with these statements.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: April 15, 2005